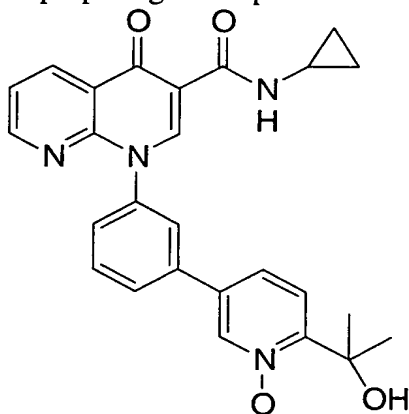


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

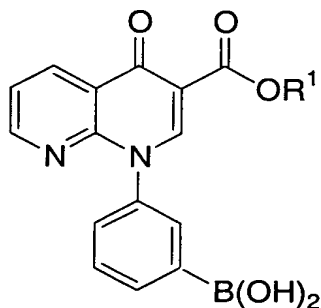
1. A method of preparing a compound of Formula IX



IX

Or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, comprising

Step C: reacting, in solvent A, a compound of Formula Va



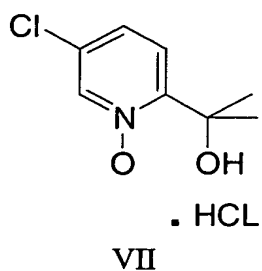
Va

wherein

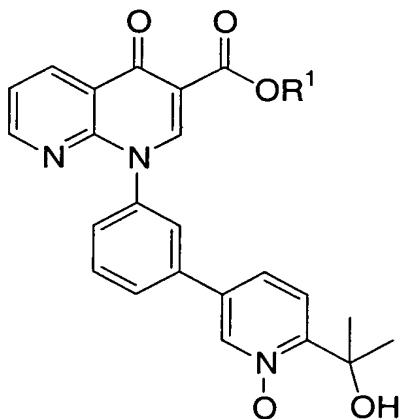
-OR¹ is a suitable leaving group; and

solvent A is selected from the group consisting of dimethylacetamide, dimethylformamide, acetonitrile, DMSO, methylacetamide, ethers or mixtures thereof;

with a compound of Formula VII

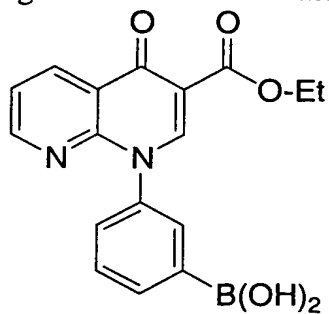


- 5 or free base thereof, in the presence of a palladium catalyst and a phosphine ligand and a second base to yield a compound of Formula VIII

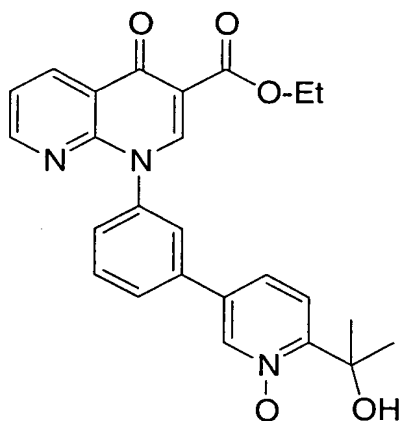


10

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the compound of formula Va is



and the compound of Formula VIII is



5 3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the second salt is a carbonate base.

4. A method according to claim 1 wherein the phosphine ligand is selected from the group consisting of $P(C_{1-6}alkyl)_3$, such as $P(t-butyl)_3$, $P(Cy)_3$, and $P(t-butyl)_2(biphenyl)$.

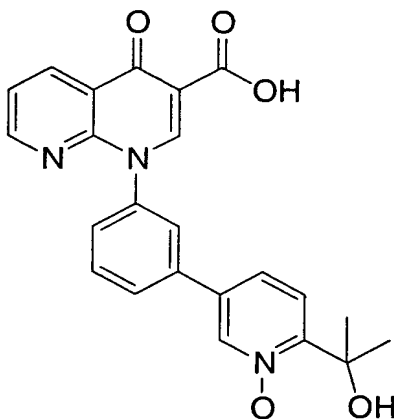
10 5. A method according to claim 1 wherein the palladium catalyst is selected from the group consisting of $P(t-butyl)_3-Pd-P(t-butyl)_3$, $[PdCl(allyl)]_2$, $Pd_2(dba)_3$, and $[P(t-butyl)_3PdBr]_2$ (Johnson-Matthey catalyst).

15 6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the second base is selected from sodium or potassium carbonate and sodium or potassium phosphate.

7. A method according to claim 1 further comprising

Step D: reacting, in water a compound of Formula VIII with sodium or potassium hydroxide to yield a compound of Formula VIIIa.

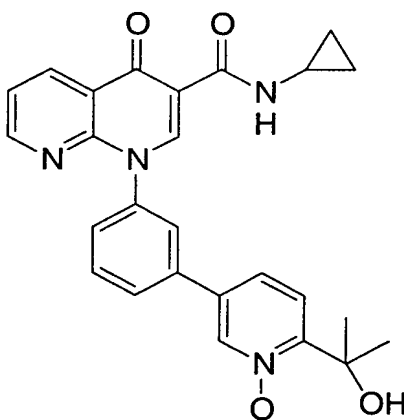
5



VIIIa

8. A method according to claim 7 further comprising

10 Step E: reacting, in solvent B, a compound of Formula VIIIa with cyclopropylamine in the presence of an activating agent to yield a compound of Formula IX.

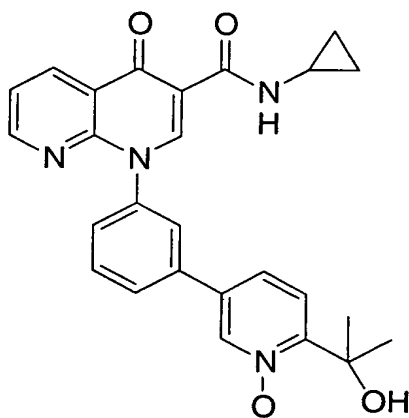


IX

15 9. A method according to claim 8 wherein solvent B is selected from the group consisting of dimethylaminoacetamide, dimethylformamide, acetonitrile, DMSO, methylacetamide, dichloromethane, ethers or mixtures thereof.

10. A method according to claim 8 wherein the activating agent is selected from carbonyl diimidazole and 1-(3-Dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride.

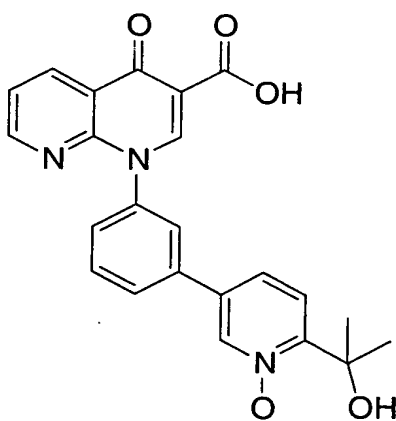
5 11. A method of preparing a compound of Formula IX



IX

Comprising

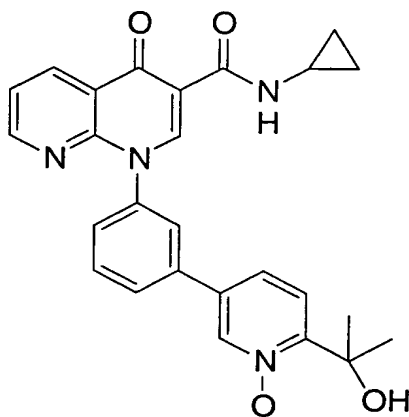
10 Step D: reacting, in water a compound of Formula VIII with sodium or potassium hydroxide to yield a compound of Formula VIIIa.



VIIIa

12. A method according to claim 12 further comprising

Step E: reacting, in solvent B, a compound of Formula VIIIa with cyclopropylamine in the presence of an activating agent to yield a compound of Formula IX.



IX

13. A method according to claim 12 wherein

reaction step D and reaction Step E are carried out without purification or isolation of the product of Step D prior to proceeding with Step E.